Table of Contents #SH2264969

INVESTIGATOR'S LOG

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING FORM

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

TRANSCRIBED INTERVIEWS

- Homicide's Interview with Deputy
- IAB's Interview with Deputy
- Homicide's Interview with Deputy Erik Florin
- IAB's Interview with Deputy Erik Florin
- IAB's Interview with Deputy Christopher Wargo
- IAB's Interview with Deputy William Kitchin II
- Homicide's Interview with Witness

EXHIBITS

- A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide Bureau Case Book under #010-04122-0284-055 authored by Detectives Steve Lankford and David Gunner.
- **B** Sketch of scene depicted by Deputy
- C Copy of Deputy Training Records
- **D** Foot Pursuit Evaluation Form
- E Sketch of scene depicted by Deputy Florin
- F (2) CD's containing audio interviews and crime scene photographs

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

- PM Shift In-service for April 13, 2010
- Signed Admonition Forms for: Deputies

 Florin, Wargo, and Kitchin
- Receipt for Investigative Material

Los Ar reles County Sheriff's Depr rent

Officer Involved Shooting

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Page

Report Date: Bureau/Station/Facility: Admin. Invest.? 08/05/10 F.O.R. I / ELA Incident Information URN: 010-04122-0284-055 04/13/10 2110 City or Station: Nature of incident: Deputy chased suspect into backyard, suspect lifted shirt ELA believed to be a handgun. As the suspect reached for exposing what Deputy the object, Deputy fired two rounds @ suspect, striking him. The suspect South Kern Avenue _ocation: jumped a fence and was arrested a short distance later by assisting deputies. No weapon was recovered. Incident Type (circle one or more): Location Type (circle one or more): Lighting (circle only one): Initiated by (circle only one): Accidental _Arrest Warrant Call_) (Darkness) Backyard (Armed Person) Daylight Beach (Fleeing Suspect) Observation Other _ Business (Foot Pursuit) One Person Unit Street Lights Freeway Gun Take Away Other Industrial Moving Vehicle Search Warrant Weather (circle only one): Sniper/Ambush Two Person Unit (Clear) Startle Parking Let Residence Cloudy Struggle Involved Prior Activity (circle only one): Fog Rural Traffic Stop Detective Rain Unarmed Person School Inmate Transport Unintentional Street Other Distance: Vehicle Pursuit Routine Pairol_ 25 feet Other: Warrant Service Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect Warning Shot Aero Unit? Canine Unit? 0 Other: Employee With Employee# Last Name First Name ShiftType (circle only one) ShiftTime (ctrcte only one) Erik E (PM) Florin EM Regular Overtime Off Duty Day Last Name First Name M.I. ShiftTime (chale only one): ShiftType (circle only one) Employee# Wargo Christopher Regular Overtime PM Day Off Duty ShiftType (circle only one): Last Name ShiftTime (circle only one): Employee# MJ, William Regular Overtime Kitchen II ΕM PM) Day Off Duty Last Name First Name Street Adds City Zip Last Name First Name MJ. Work Ph Street Address City Zip Code Home Ph First Name MIL Last Name City Žip Code Work Ph Home Ph Street Address (circle one or more): First Name Employee# Last Name МΜ Witness to shooting On Duty Involved in shooting David Ν Ladjevic Present during shooting (circle one or more): First Name MJ Last Name Employee# On Duty Witness to shooting Present during shooting Involved in shooting Watch Sergeant First Name Employee # С Monarrez Jr. Joseph Watch Commander 14,1 MJ. Last Name First Name Employee# В. Robert Norris

	PSTD Use Only	
SH#	2264969	

Officer Involved Shooting URN: 010-04122-0284-055

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FORCE APPLIED (one code per block)

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Officer Involved Shooting (Involved Employee Information

						Page	3_of <u>4</u>
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Officer Involved Shooting (

URN: 010-04122-0284-055

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	Armed?	Apprehended?		Mental Illness?	Criminal History?	
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INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY DEPUTY-INVOLVED HIT SHOOTING (UNARMED SUSPECT) IAB #SH2264969

URN: 010-04122-0284-055

DATE / TIME: Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 2110 hours

LOCATION: South Kern Avenue, East Los Angeles, California, 90022

SUSPECT: Alejandro DeLeon, MH/28, Booking number #2297463

"Rifa Maravilla" gang member, moniker: "Serio"

PERSONNEL: Deputy #

On April 13, 2010, the Internal Affairs Bureau's Force and Shooting Response Team responded to the East Los Angeles Station area, regarding a deputy involved, hit shooting. The team consisted of Lieutenant Mike Grimaldi, and Sergeants Dinah Grote and Laura Haynes. Attorney Michael Gennaco of the Office of Independent Review also responded.

IAB NOTE: IAB Lieutenant Mike Grimaldi checked to see that the Early Morning watch commander, Lieutenant Robert Norris, took reasonable steps to ensure that the involved and witness personnel did not discuss the incident among themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators, and that the involved and witness personnel did not collectively consult with their attorney or representative. In addition, IAB Lieutenant Grimaldi checked to see if the watch commander attempted to have involved and witness personnel gather in the company of a supervisor (Sergeant Joseph Monarrez) until they have provided a statement to the assigned investigators.

When the team arrived at the location there were both an active command post and a containment of the crime scene area. Investigators learned that the series of events which occurred culminated into a deputy involved, hit shooting, involving Deputy and that the suspect was struck by gunfire. The personnel involved in the incident was a uniformed patrol deputy working a one-person unit. The criminal investigation is being handled by Homicide Detectives, Steven Lankford and David Gunner.

SYNOPSIS:

Deputy and two assisting units, Deputy Erik Florin (23A/PM's) and Deputies Christopher Wargo and William Kitchin II (21A/pm'S), responded to South Kern Avenue regarding a "gang disturbance, do not contact informant" call. That address was known by the responding deputies to be a haven for gang and narcotics activity.

Upon their arrival, the deputies saw a vehicle stopped in the street facing the driveway of South Kern Avenue. The vehicle was blocking the southbound lane of travel for vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and had several occupants. The deputies exited their vehicles to contact the occupants of the vehicle. As approached the vehicle, he saw a male, Suspect Alejandro DeLeon, on the sidewalk in front of the vehicle, turn, and walk north on the west sidewalk, away from Deputy
Deputies Wargo and Kitchin remained with occupants of the vehicle as Deputy walked north in the street, slightly to the south of the suspect, paralleling him. Deputy Florin walked 10-15 feet behind Deputy As Suspect DeLeon walked north, he discarded what Deputy believed was a plastic baggie containing illegal drugs into the grassy yard of an unknown residence.
Deputy alerted Deputy Florin to the suspect's actions as they both followed behind Suspect DeLeon as he continued to walk north along the west sidewalk. Suspect DeLeon then turned into the driveway of the location and walked west toward the rear house on the property. Deputy produced the suspect to stop while illuminating the suspect with his hand-held flashlight, but he failed to comply as he continued to walk west. Utilizing the flashlight on his weapon and again ordering the suspect to stop, Deputy supply
Suspect DeLeon then ran northwest toward the north side of the rear house. Deputy ran after the suspect and was about to put out his involvement in a foot pursuit as the suspect ran to a side wood gate/door on the north side of the rear house and kicked down the door. The door fell forward, causing Suspect DeLeon to stumble, but not fall. The suspect then turned back toward Deputy and lifted his shirt, exposing the butt of a handgun in his waistband/hip area. The suspect bladed the right side of his body and looked at Deputy as he began to raise his right hand toward the gun.
Fearing for his life, Deputy fired two rounds from his duty weapon at Suspect DeLeon. Not flinching, Suspect DeLeon dropped his hands to the chain-link fence, and jumped over it. He landed in the yard of the adjacent property and ran north, then eastbound. Deputy broadcast his shooting and provided the description of the suspect and last seen direction.
Deputy Wargo heard the gunshots and ran north on Kern Avenue. He heard Deputy radio broadcast and shortly thereafter, Suspect DeLeon emerged eastbound from the driveway and onto the sidewalk at South Kern Avenue where he was detained by Deputy Wargo. Deputy responded and assisted in handcuffing Suspect DeLeon.

Suspect DeLeon sustained a gunshot wound to his left thigh and a grazing wound to his chest. He was transported to Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center where he was treated for his gunshot wounds and listed in stable condition.

Neither the baggie the suspect discarded nor the handgun was recovered from the scene. Two expended .45 caliber shell casings were recovered at the scene.

Homicide Bureau Detectives Steven Lankford and David Gunner arrived and took control of the investigation. For further, refer to the Homicide case book, presented as **Exhibit A**.

INVOLVED PERSONNEL:

Deputy Sheriff, Employee #

WORK HISTORY:

Date of Employment:
Date assigned to Patrol:
Completed Patrol Training:
Prior Shooting Incident(s):

Prior Founded Force Incident(s):



SUSPECT INFORMATION:

DELEON, Alejandro, MH/28, DOB: 01/25/1982, 5' 09", 190 lbs.

CII # CCHRS # MAIN # FBI #

A check of the CCHRS (Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System) revealed that Suspect DeLeon had

Refer to a

copy of his CCHRS/CII printouts, presented as Exhibit A, pages 76-106.

EMPLOYEE WITNESS:

FLORIN, Erik, E.

Deputy Sheriff, Employee # Field Operations I, Patrol Deputy

WARGO, Christopher, J.
Deputy Sheriff, Employee #
Field Operations I, Patrol Deputy

KITCHIN II, William J.
Deputy Sheriff, Employee Field Operations I, Patrol Deputy

NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES:

MH/37

INJURIES:

No deputy personnel were injured in this incident.

Suspect DeLeon sustained two gunshot wounds to his body. One wound grazed across the front of his chest, and the other was a through and through wound to his left thigh. For further, refer to Homicide's interview with Suspect DeLeon regarding his injuries in *Exhibit A*, *pages 58-59*.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Located at the shooting scene was two expended "Winchester 45 Auto" cartridge casings. Located on the sidewalk in front of Kern Avenue were Suspect DeLeon's tennis shoes, shorts, sweater, shirt, belt, T-shirt, bandana, baseball cap, and bible. For further regarding the collection of evidence, refer to *Exhibit A*, *pages 63-64*

The general area was photographed by Forensic Identification Specialist Jackie Thompson in *Exhibit A*, *page 151*. Forensic Identification Specialist Martin Mutac, assisted by documenting the evidence through a sketch and measurements, presented in *Exhibit A*, *page 152-156*.

The evidence was photographed and collected by Forensic Identification Specialist Edna Roches. For further, refer to her supplemental report in *Exhibit A*, *pages 157-160*, along with two CD's containing photographs of the crime scene, *Exhibit F*.

INVESTIGATORS' OBSERVATIONS:

The 900 block of south Kern Avenue was blocked off from Whittier Boulevard to the north to Verona Street to the south. The scene was cordoned off by marked patrol cars, crime scene tape, and uniformed personnel. Kern Avenue is a north/south street that intersects with Whittier Boulevard to the north and Verona Street to the south. The area south of Whittier Boulevard is primarily residential neighborhoods comprised of single family homes. Kern Avenue can accommodate traffic in both directions. There is a sidewalk on both the

At the location of the shooting, there are two residences on the lot. The front house, is a single story residence. The concrete driveway is located on the south side of the house and continues west into the backyard almost to the second residence.

The rear door of the house faces west toward the front door of the In between both houses is an open area with two separate standing plastic tarps and two parked vehicles.

On the north side of the rear house is a narrow walkway that runs west toward the

On the north side of the rear house is a narrow walkway that runs west toward the end of the residence. There is a four-foot high chain link fence along the north side of the walkway, separating the property from South Kern Avenue. A wooden fence was observed laying on the ground, over some debris, as if it were knocked down. For a more detailed description of the scene, refer to *Exhibit A*, *pages 65-70*.

WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:

east and west side of the street along with a raised curb.

Deputy carried his duty firearm, a .45 caliber, H&K, Model USP, semiautomatic, black, serial # with an attached light and "Winchester" 45 Auto brand ammunition. Deputy carried his weapon with 12 rounds in the magazine and one in the chamber. During the incident, he fired two rounds. Following the shooting, Deputy handgun was recovered and he had 10 live rounds in his magazine and one in the chamber. The ammunition did not appear to be modified in any way. The handgun and ammunition were submitted to the Firearms Laboratory under receipt number K192677.

Firearms Examiner Ivan Chavez and Manuel Munoz examined and test-fired Deputy handgun and found it to be functional and within departmental and manufacturers' guidelines. It did not appear to be modified in any way. For further, refer to the Firearms' Report in *Exhibit A, page 150*.

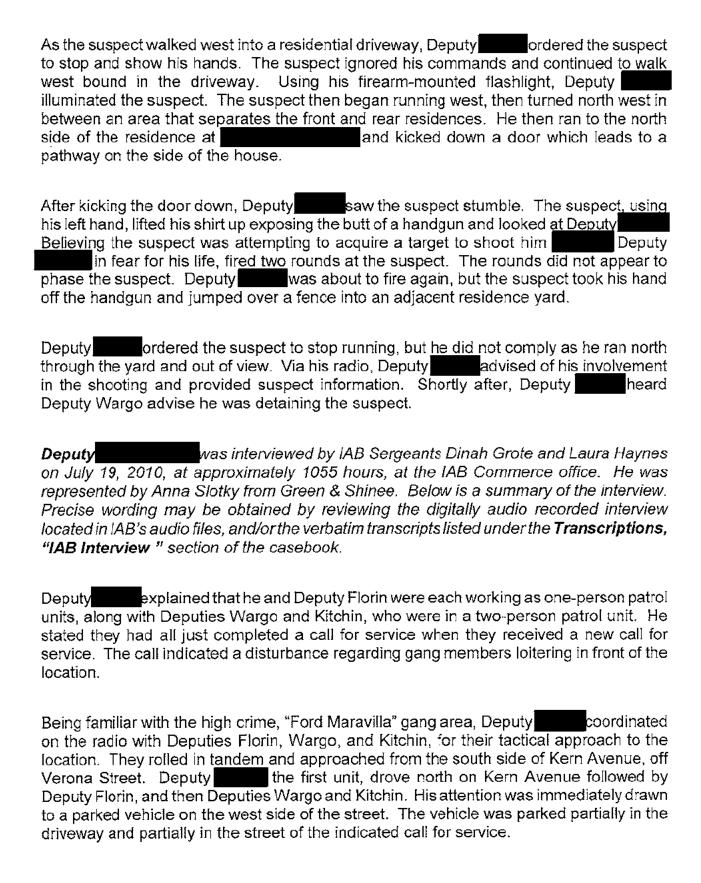
WEAPON USED BY THE SUSPECT:

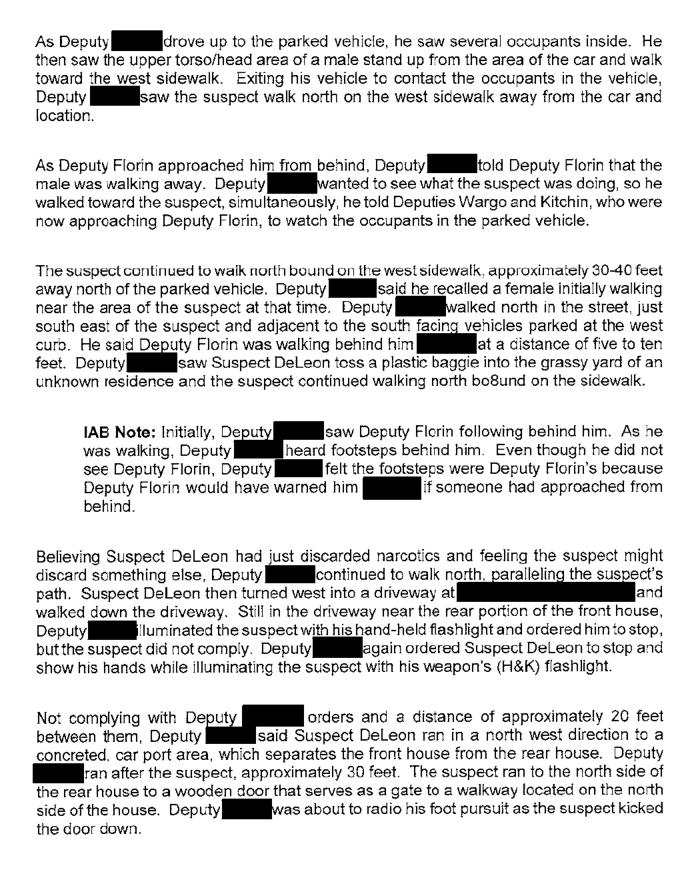
No weapons were located on Suspect DeLeon or at the scene.

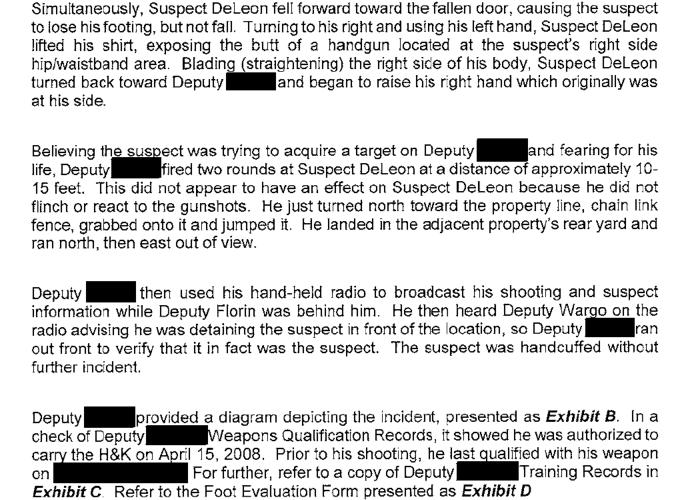
PROPERTY DAMAGE:

There was no noted damage to any property.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION	
Investigator's Name:	Homicide Detectives Steven Lankford and David Gunner
Court:	East Los Angeles Municipal
Charges Filed:	245 (d)(1) and 148 P.C.
DA Incident Number:	30827034
against Suspect DeLeon	by District Robert S. Nishinaka declined to file the above charges i, citing a deferral for "Revocation of Parole." For further, refer to raluation Worksheet listed in <i>Exhibit A, pages 161-162</i> .
LIGHTING AND WEATH	IER CONDITIONS:
It was a dry, clear, and lighting and nearby stree	cold night. The crime scene area was poorly light by ambient et lights.
INVOLVED EMPLOYEE	
Steven Lankford and Day by Anna Slotky and Ric obtained by reviewing the and/or the verbatim tran section of the caseboo	as interviewed during the investigation by Homicide Investigators vid Gunner on April 14, 2010, at 0635 hours. He was represented chard Shinee from Green & Shinee. Precise wording may be ne digitally audio recorded interview located in IAB's audio files escripts listed under the Transcriptions , "Homicide Interview" of k. Below is a summary of his interview with the Homicide inplete summary of his interview with Homicide investigators, refer 58.
by the "Ford Maravilla" gawith two other units in or arrive, saw a vehicle collocation. Upon exiting havehicle to the sidewalk. Deputy told Deputy	igators the area is a high-crime and gang area, which is controlled ang members. Being familiar with the area, Deputy met up the first unit to ontaining four to five occupants, parked in the driveway of the is vehicle, Deputy saw the suspect walking away from the Believing the suspect was distancing himself from the deputies, ities Wargo and Kitchin to stay with the occupants in the parked puty Florin followed the suspect.
and saw Suspect DeLec	orth on the sidewalk, Deputy followed him north in the street on toss a sandwich baggie to the ground. Believing the suspect tics, Deputy continued to follow him on foot, approximately e east of the suspect.

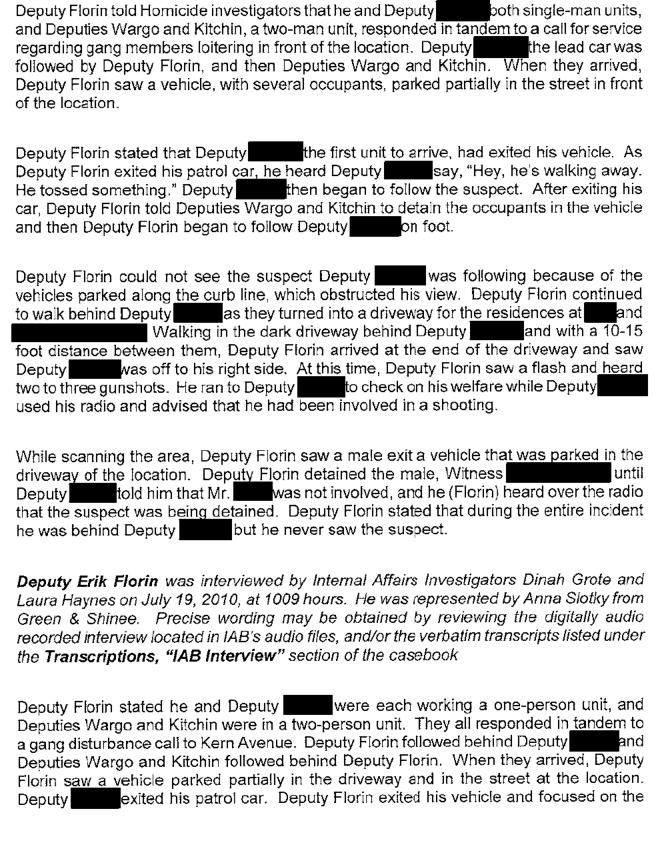






EMPLOYEE WITNESS STATEMENTS:

Deputy Erik Florin was interviewed during the investigation by Homicide Investigators Steven Lankford and David Gunner on April 14, 2010, at 0605 hours. He was represented by Anna Slotky and Richard Shinee from Green & Shinee. Precise wording of the interview may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interview located in IAB's audio files, and/or the verbatim transcripts listed under the Transcriptions, "Homicide Interview" section of the casebook. Below is a summary of his interview with the Homicide investigators. For the complete summary of his interview with Homicide investigators, refer to Exhibit A, pages 55-57.



occupants in the parked vehicle, and immediately, he heard Deputy say, "He's walking away." Deputy Florin said Deputy started walking north in the street, so he walked behind Deputy while Deputies Wargo and Kitchin remained with the occupants in the parked car. Several seconds later, Deputy Florin heard Deputy say, "He tossed something."
Deputy Florin continued to walk behind Deputy at a distance of 10-15 feet, while scanning the west sidewalk and yards for persons or the tossed item. Deputy Florin still could not see the suspect as they walked, but he continued to walk behind Deputy as they turned west into a residential driveway. Walking west down the driveway, Deputy Florin said he was in still in the driveway in the open area between the front and rear houses. He said he was looking west and out of his peripheral vision, he could see Deputy to his right (north), approximately 10-15 feet away when he heard several gunshots and saw muzzle flashes coming from Deputy gun.
Deputy Florin ran to Deputy to check on his welfare, then started checking/scanning the area. He heard Deputy putting out the emergent radio traffic and then heard the suspect was being detained. Deputy ran to check on the detainee and Deputy Florin remained at the shooting scene securing the area when he saw a male, Witness exiting a parked vehicle. After learning the male was not involved, Mr. was released.
Deputy Florin stated that he gave an inaccurate time estimation of the incident (5-10 minutes) to Homicide in his interview. He said that from the time he exited his patrol vehicle to the shooting, 30-40 seconds had elapsed. For further, refer to Deputy Florin's supplemental report is listed in <i>Exhibit A, page 9</i> , and his diagram depicting the incident in <i>Exhibit E</i> .
Deputy Christopher Wargo was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Dinah Grote and Laura Haynes on May 20, 2010, at 1037 hours, at the IAB Commerce office. He was represented by Anna Slotky from Green & Shinee. Below is a summary of the interview. Precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interview located in IAB's audio files and/or the verbatim transcripts listed under the Transcriptions, "IAB Interview" section of the casebook.
Deputy Wargo (driver) stated he was working with Deputy Kitchin (book-person) in a two-person unit. He said they responded, along with Deputies and Florin, to a gang disturbance call for service. Deputy was the first car, followed by Deputy Florin, and then their car. Deputy Wargo said that when they arrived, Deputy exited his vehicle, followed by Deputy Florin. Deputy Wargo said when he exited the patrol car, he saw a

burgundy car with several occupants parked in the driveway of the indicated call for service. As he approached the occupants of the car, he saw Deputies and Florin walking in a northwesterly direction on Kern Avenue, and out of view. He stated that he and Deputy Kitchin remained at the parked car with the four occupants.

Approximately twenty seconds later, Deputy Wargo heard two gunshots north of his location. With Deputy Kitchin remaining with the occupants, Deputy Wargo went to the west sidewalk and scanned around looking for Deputies Florin and and to see if anyone was firing rounds at them (Wargo and Kitchin). He then heard the Sheriff's Communications Center voice that Deputy was involved in a shooting.

While Deputy Kitchin stayed with the occupants, Deputy Wargo ran north along the west sidewalk looking for their location. After running north past two to three residences, Deputy Wargo heard Deputy over the radio broadcast the last seen direction of the suspect and clothing description. As Deputy Wargo continued to run north on Kern Avenue, he saw the described suspect run eastbound from the driveway, out onto the sidewalk. The suspect turned and ran north from the driveway. Taking cover behind a parked vehicle, Deputy Wargo ordered the suspect to the ground. After a second order, the suspect complied and lay on the sidewalk. Deputy Wargo advised over the radio of the suspect's detention. Deputy responded and with his assistance, Deputy Wargo handcuffed Suspect DeLeon without incident. For further, refer to Deputy Wargo's supplemental report is listed in *Exhibit A, pages 10-20*.

Deputy William Kitchin II was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Dinah Grote and Laura Haynes on May 20, 2010, at 1037 hours, at the IAB Commerce office. He was represented by Anna Slotky from Green & Shinee. Below is a summary of the interview. Precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interview located in IAB's audio files and/or the verbatim transcripts listed under the Transcriptions, "IAB Interview" section of the casebook.

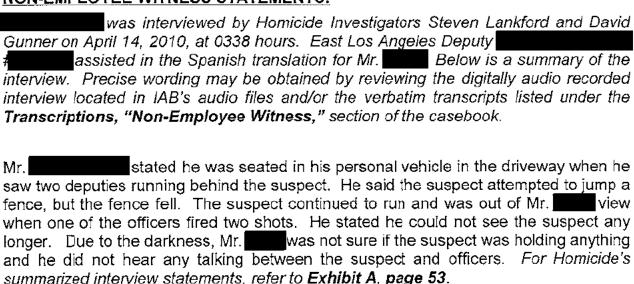
Deputy Kitchin (book-person) stated he was working with Deputy Wargo (driver) in a two-person unit. He said they responded, along with Deputies and Florin, to a gang disturbance call for service. Deputy was the first car, followed by Deputy Florin, and then their car. Deputy Kitchin stated that when they turned onto Kern Avenue, he saw a male leaning into the passenger side of a parked burgundy-colored vehicle in front of the location. When they arrived, the male locked over at the deputies then he immediately turned and walked toward the west sidewalk.

Deputy Kitchin stated that Deputies and Florin followed the male. He and Deputy Wargo remained with the occupants of the burgundy car. As Deputy Kitchin removed the driver of the vehicle to conduct a pat-down search, he heard what he believed to be two gunshots. He told the driver to get back into the car, and he detained the occupants while Deputy Wargo went to look for Deputies Florin and

Deputy Kitchin then heard radio traffic of the shooting and of last-seen suspect information. Deputy Kitchin monitored Deputy Wargo as he (Wargo) ran north on the west sidewalk. Approximately five to six houses north of him, Deputy Kitchin heard Deputy Wargo advising that he was detaining the suspect, so he ran up to where Deputy Wargo was detaining the suspect and saw Deputy assist in the handcuffing of the suspect.

Deputy Kitchin documented the four occupants in the parked vehicle. For further regarding their involvement, refer to Deputy Kitchin's supplemental report is listed in *Exhibit A, pages 43-48*. The occupants were later interviewed by Homicide investigators and said they heard the gunshots, but did not witness the actual shooting. For a summary of their interviews with Homicide, refer to *Exhibit A, pages 60-62*.

NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESS STATEMENTS:



SUSPECT STATEMENT:

On April 14, 2010, at 0800 hours, Homicide Investigators Steven Lankford and David Gunner interviewed Suspect Alejandro DeLeon at Los Angeles County Medical Center.

Precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interview located in IAB's audio files and/or the verbatim transcripts listed under the **Transcriptions** section of the casebook. Below is a summary of his interview with the Homicide investigators.

Suspect DeLeon stated he met up with two girls in front of the location when the deputies arrived. He said he was walking down Kern Avenue and the deputies were detaining people in a car. He said a deputy was following him. Fearful he would be arrested for not reporting to his parole officer, Suspect DeLeon took off running. He said a deputy told him to "freeze" and then shot him. Suspect DeLeon said that after he was shot, he continued to run and eventually collapsed on the sidewalk.

Suspect DeLeon denied having any narcotics or handguns in his possession. Refer to photographs of Suspect DeLeon in *Exhibit A, pages 103-106*.

IAB Note: During the interview, Homicide investigators noted several discrepancies in Suspect DeLeon's recollection of the incident. For the complete summary of his interview with Homicide investigators, refer to *Exhibit A*, *pages 58-60*. For further, refer to Homicide's interview of the two women and in *Exhibit A*, *pages 53-55*.

MISCELLANEOUS SECTION:

None.